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Message Text

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20
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01

COME-00 DLOS-04 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /126 W
---------- 081630
R 180935Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5618
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 17993

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PLOS, JA
SUBJETC: PRIMIIN MIKI COMMENTS ON EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL SEA

REF: TOKYO 17929

SUMMARY. PRIME MINISTER'S RESPONSE TO DIET QUESTION IS FURTHER INDICATION THAT GOJ WILL ARGUE THAT HITHERTO INTERNATIONAL STRAITS ARE BEYOND REACH OF NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES EVEN IF TERRITORIAL SEA IS EXTENDED TO TWELVE NAUTICAL MILES. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIMIE MINISTER TAKEO MIKI, CURRENTLY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER BECAUSE FONMIN MIYAZAWA IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY,
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RESPONDED TO QUESTION OF POSSIBLE EXTENSON OF JAPAN'S

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TERRITORIAL SEA TO TWELVE NAUTICAL MILES AT LOWER HOUSE
FOREING AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ESSSION DECEMBER 15.
QUESTIONER, JSP'S TAMIO KAWAKAMI, INQUIRED IF MUCH-BRUITED
EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL SEA (REFTEL) WOULD NOT INVOL-

VE COMPROMISE OF JAPAN'S THREE NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES,
THIRD OF WHICH FORBIDS ENTRY OR TRANSIT OF NUCLEAR WEA-
PONS. ACCORDING TO NIHON KEIZAI REPORT, MIKI ANSWERED,
"ISSUE OF FREE PASSAGE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL STRAITS IS
PROBLEM TO BE DECIDED AT LOS CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, THE
THREE NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES WILL NOT BE VIOLATED IN
AREAS OVER WHICH OUR COUNTRY'S AUTHORITY EXTENDS." OTHER
NEWSPAPER REPORTS LESS COMPLETE; NEVERTHELESS, ALL PAPERS
INTERPRETED MIKI REMARKS AS INDICATION OF CONDITIONAL
GOJ READINESS TO EXTEND TERRITORIAL WATERS. THE JAPANESE
PRESS INTERPRETED MIKI STATEMENT TO MEAN THAT THE
QUESTION OF THE RIGHT OF NUCLEAR-ARMED VESSELS TO TRANSIT
HITHERTO INTERNATIONAL STRAITS (E.G. BETWEEN HONSHU AND
HOKKAIDO, WOULD BE DECIDED BY THE LOS CONFERENCE--
PRESUMABLY ALONG THE LINES OF THE SINGLE NEGOTIATING TEXT.
JAPANESE ABILITY TO ISIST ON COMPLIANCE WITH NON-NUCLEAR
PRINCIPLES WOULD THUS BE LIMITED BY INTERNATIONALLY-
ACCORDED RIGHTS OF PASSAGE.

2. ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT YET SEEN TRANSCRIPT OF INTER-
PELLATION, FONOFF TREATIES DIV DIR OWADA CONFIRMED TO
EMBOFF THAT MIKI'S REMARKS, AS REPORTED BY PRESS, GENERALLY
ACCURATE REFLECTION OF GOJ THINKING. IT RESTATES NOTION
PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED BY FONMIN MIYAZAWA AND TREATIES
BUREAU DIR GEN MATSUNAGA. BUT, CAUTIONED,
DEFINITIVE GOJ POSITION HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED; PROBLEM
IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION BY INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE.
NEVERTHELESS OWADE SAID, STRATEGY OF TRYING TO CONTAIN PRESSURES
FOR UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL
WATERS IS ALSO UNCHANGED.

3. OPPOSITION PARTIES, PARTICULARLY THE JSP, HAVE PRO-
CEEDED CAUTIOSULY SO FAR. HOWEVER, IT IS LIKELY THAT IF
GOJ PERSISTS IN ITS PRESENT LINE OF REASONING, OR ANY
OTHER WHICH APPEARS TO COMPROMISE THE NON-NUCLEAR
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PRINCIPLES, IT WILL BE STRONGLY RESISTED BY OPPOSITION
PARTIES.

4. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH MIKI STATEMENT IS SIMILAR TO
DECEMBER 10 STATEMENT OF FONOFF OFFICIAL, IT OBVIOUSLY IS
MORE AUTHORITATIVE. IT SEEKS TO MEET NEEDS OFFISHERIES
INTERESTS WHO WANT PROMPT DECLARATION OF TWELVE MILE LIMIT,
THOSE CONCEREND WITH NUCLEAR TRANSIT ISSUE AD THOSE

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WORRIED ABOUT INTERNATIONAL IMPLICATIONS. AS SUCH, IT
MAY WELL REFLECT MOUNTING AND SOEWHAT CONTRADICTORY
PRESSURES. FONOFF BUREACURACY WTILL SEEMS INTENT ON
CONTAINING PRESSURES, AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER MARCH LOS
CONFERENCE. BUT MOUNTING PRESSURES COULD PROVE IRRESISTIBLE.
IN MEANTIME, GOVERNMENT MAY WELL BE TESTING OPPOSITON
PARTY-- AND USG -- REACTION.

5. FONOFF APPARENTLY ASSUMES EVENTUAL LOS TREATY
WOULD DEAL WITH STRAITS QUESTION ALONG LINES OF
CURRENT SINGLE NEGOTIATING TEXT. IS THIS ASSUMPTION
ABOUT POSSIBLE TREATY ACCURATE?
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